

# News of the Theaters, Music,

All communications and cuts intended for use in this department must be in the office of The Republican not later than 7:30 p. m. on Thursday.  
Dramatic Editor.

By MAITLAND DAVIES.

Once more the time for the annual EKK's show has come around and for the next two weeks all eyes will be centered on the doings of the best people on earth, while all ears are strained for news and gossip that filters out regarding this most popular of all amateur theatrical productions.

Departing from their custom of the past two years the EKKs will forsake the drama this spring and, under the direction of Eugene Redewill, will put on a monster minstrel and vaudeville show, with a list of artists a yard long.

For the past week Mr. Redewill has been rehearsing his stars every evening and the work already indicates that this minstrel show will outdo anything of its kind ever attempted before in Arizona.

During the past few years Mr. Redewill has been identified with a great many musical enterprises here, all of which have rebounded greatly to his credit and his treatment of the minstrels may be relied upon to be novel and up-to-date. Under his wing is a collection of artists far superior to what one usually finds in amateur affairs. The EKKs have never failed to develop exceptional talent and this year it is more plentiful and more able than ever before.

The dates for the show are Monday and Tuesday, February 15 and 16. Vastly them in your hat and, no matter what tries to interfere, keep them both free that you may enjoy the most enjoyable event of the season.

Most Popular Girl in Phoenix

Some people may think that it is open to question; but we believe it is not. Although there are many popular young ladies in town, there is one whose popularity is so general, so far-reaching and so all-embracing, that she stands alone with the rest nowhere. Here is a popularity so great that it is not too much to say that she is "well and favorably known" to a large portion of the population of every city, town and village in the whole United States and that her appearance is eagerly looked forward to in all of them.

She has not lived in Phoenix very



Princess Tsianina Redfeather, Indian Mezzo-Soprano, Who is Coming to Phoenix

long; but long before that she had a host of friends here, and now that she has come to live among us her daily appearance on the streets, especially when, garbed in that trim crash riding suit of eastern cut, she rides "Buttons," creates a good deal of a sensation.

The young lady referred to is, of course, Vinnie Burns, leading lady of the Lubin Co., which, under the direction of Romaine Fielding, is spreading the beauties of the Salt River Valley broadcast through the land.

For seven years, she was a tiny wee girl when she began and she is not much bigger now. Miss Burns has been appearing on the moving picture screen. She began with the Biograph Co. under the direction of David Griffith and after that engagement she went to the Selig Co. and with that company, at the age of thirteen, she played leads opposite her present manager Romaine Fielding.

During the time she has been appearing as a screen star the little lady has had many experiences thrilling and otherwise. Like all screen heroines she has had to take many chances and run risks in the course of the many parts she played. "I wondered if it was all worth while," said Miss Burns the other day. "One afternoon 'Sister Anne' (Sister Anne in this case being Miss Elsie Burns, the ingenue of the Lubin Co.) and I had gone into a theater for the purpose of seeing ourselves as others see us. The pictures were one in which I was called upon to leap out of a third story window and a lady in front of me became greatly excited as I made the leap. Her escort laughed at her and assured her that it was only a fake, that it was a dummy which she saw fall. As I happen to have spent three weeks in St. Luke's hospital in New York as a direct result of that leap, it pained me considerably and made me wonder if it would not have been just as well to have used a dummy and cut out the realism."

"I vowed never to risk my life again; but of course I never lived up to my resolution and inside of two weeks from the time I left the hospital I was doing the same thing all over again."

We asked Miss Burns what particular experience she had gone through that frightened her most and she told us very coyly, that perhaps the one in which she had been locked in a cage with a royal Bengal tigress, weighing seven hundred pounds and standing over six feet high on "his" hind legs had been the most terrifying she had ever experienced. We quite agreed with her that it was bad enough to be locked in a cage with any wild animal; but to be locked up with a tigress who stood on his hind legs was more than any mere woman could be expected to endure.

Before she went into the movies, this popular young lady had already appeared before the footlights many

times. Beginning at the age of five she appeared with many of the legitimate stars, Robert Mantell, Henry Ludlow, the Ben Greet Players and finally with "The Clansmen." Her very first appearance was in "Ben Hur." Like all the prominent movie stars she loves the broad outdoors and all the sports that go with it. Riding is her favorite amusement and since she has been in Phoenix she has taken advantage of the opportunity to explore the desert and the mountains.

She wonders if Phoenix realizes how fortunate it is to have a man like Romaine Fielding at the head of the company that is located here, because in all the list of great producers none has yet been found who has been so well able to embody the "spirit of the land" in his pictures. "I think," said Miss Burns, "that he comes closer to nature as it really is than any man I have ever worked with and I am so glad to have the opportunity of working with him. When you see the pictures that he makes of this wonderful country, you will realize that he has grasped the most vital things in the landscape and put them into the pictures in a way that brings their beauty home to the minds of everyone who sees them."

The most popular young lady in Phoenix came to the Lubin Co. about six months ago and since that time she has appeared in "The Valley of the Lost Hope," "The Hour of Disaster" and "Two Thousand Miles West," which is now being finished here. Her sister, Miss Elsie Burns is with her here playing ingenue parts very cleverly. She would have figured very largely in this story, only her fiery steed which was roped and hog-tied outside the Board of Trade building broke loose and ran all the way across the street to a tempting looking patch of grass and she had to go out and save the valuable animal from disaster.

Sinners

Miss Emma Dunn, whose marvellously beautiful work as "the girl's mother" in "Sinners" has given to that very obvious melodrama its best reason for existence, says that the real sin of that production is the fact that cruel managers again force her to play the part of an old woman, instead of allowing her to appear in the blitheness of youth.

In all probability the general public looks upon Miss Dunn as a well ended up old lady, all wrinkled and faded, whereas she is still in the full bloom of youth.

When Richard Mansfield produced "Peer Gynt" he had engaged an elderly woman of large stature to play the role of his mother; but when he found that he would have to lift her up and carry her around, he balked and decided that he would take someone who would at least not be a physical burden to him. It so happened that Miss Dunn, who was then in the late teens, was little and easy to lift so she got the part. Fate! She played it with a tenderness and sympathy that won for her most enthusiastic praise from critics and public alike and from that day on she was doomed to "motherhood." Her next engagement was with Belasco in "The Warrens of Virginia" and nobody who saw that beautiful play will ever forget her exquisite portrayal of the old Southern mother with the General Warren of Frank Keenan it will live through time. After this engagement Miss Dunn rebelled against mothers and because she had done such good work Mr. Belasco gave her the part of "Annie," the colored maid, with Frances Starr in "The Eastest Way" and her work there proved that she was quite as capable in other lines as she was in maternal roles. Then came "Mother" and again Miss Dunn was called on. With rebellion in her heart she accepted the part with an ultimatum that it was positively the last time that she would ever appear in any part that called for a character more than eighteen years old. It was the beauty of her performance alone that saved "Mother" from oblivion and after she had played a long engagement in that Belasco claimed her once more and again she was seen as a "sweet old lady" in "The Governor's Lady."

When Mr. Brady decided to produce "Sinners" he sent for "little Emmy" and offered her the role of mother in that play. She told him that she had positively decided never to appear in a "mother" part again but that she would like to have a chance to play the part of "Polly." Brady said he thought it a very wise decision and for her to take "Polly" along with her and read it over and see how she liked it. When time came for rehearsal, Brady explained that while she would undoubtedly make a great Polly, in justice to both the public and herself she should essay the role of Mrs. Horton. After much expostulation and many tears, she was finally prevailed upon to accept the part, with the result that she has achieved one of the greatest triumphs of her career. The great beauty of all Miss Dunn's work is its humanness, her characters are never overdrawn and they always "get under the skin." She is probably responsible for more "Happy Tears" than any other woman of her age in America and one never sees a performance by her without coming away from the theater feeling better for it.

"Sand Gene" a Triumph

Postponed from Friday until Monday of this week because of the temporary indisposition of Miss Farrar, Giordano's opera "Madame Sans Gene" was finally given its first performance on any stage at the Metropolitan Opera House last Monday night. It scored a tremendous triumph and is hailed by the critics as the crowning glory of the



Vinnie Burns, the most popular girl in Phoenix

Gatti-Casazza regime. The opera itself and Miss Farrar, Annetta and the various other artists engaged in it scored tremendous hits and the premier is looked on as the greatest thing that has ever happened at the Metropolitan.

Crash!

After all there may be something in a name. "The Fallen Idol" was produced last week at the Comedy theater in New York by Joe Weber. It was announced as "a serious drama" and that much of the negative criticism came from the fact that its name for the ideal surely fell in the fact the dull and sickening thud of the fall echoed up and down Broadway.

WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK.

THE COLISEUM has for its great headline attraction this week the big Broadway whistling fame, the man with the big voice and the mysterious whistle, an entertainer of great reputation and one of the best



Mary Pickford in "Behind the Scenes," Arizona Tuesday

way, by word of mouth and the critical columns of both morning and afternoon papers. Produced out of town a few weeks ago and tried on many "dogs," the management strove by many changes in the cast to whip it into shape for a New York success; but they might have saved both time and money by letting it die in peace on the road. New York has no use for it.

Cadman and Princess Redfeather

To all the many people who so thoroughly enjoyed the joint recital given at the Arizona School of Music last spring by Charles Wakefield Cadman and Princess Redfeather, the news that they will be here again

features that have been booked at the Coliseum for a long time. Williams and Crawford in a comedy acrobatic novelty are a pair of artists that will go a long way toward making the coming week a record one and they will be backed up by Keeler and Albert in their original oddity, "Taking an Order." The whole bill is essentially different from any that has been presented for some time, and is bound to prove a most attractive novelty to the patrons of the iron house.

Business at the Coliseum has been good and is constantly growing better, witness the new limousine that last spring by Charles Wakefield Cadman and Princess Redfeather, the news that they will be here again



"Across the Pacific," Arizona Today

## EMPRESS

MATINEE AND EVENING

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### "Across The Pacific"

Matinee Today

Coming Mary Pickford in "Behind the Scenes."

## Arizona Theater

Phoenix public, let him drop in, if he can find room, at the Coliseum any Tuesday evening and see for himself. The pictures at the big iron house are always good, they are supplied by the Mutual Film Corporation and are a constant source of satisfaction to the audience.

THE ARIZONA, after having spent a week of tremendous prosperity and having shown three pictures of unusual merit, is now out for another record and will start off the new week today with a film of Charles E. Blaney's famous old play, "Across the Pacific." In the good old days, before the movies had destroyed the gods, and when melodrama was hailed with delight throughout the length and breadth of the land, this was the greatest thriller and money-maker of its time. Now the World Film Corporation has made it into a picture and the reports have it that it has all others of its kind faded and backed off the boards. If anybody is looking for a thriller all they have to do is to travel to the Arizona today and they will surely find it.

(Continued on Next Page)

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